

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY CU/AF:KWCHARD:JAJ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL DOUALA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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TAGS: OEXC, CM (KAM A, DANIEL)

SUBJECT: FY-76 IV DANIEL KAM'A

REF: PARIS 19393

1. CU/AF A,OLOGIZES FOR DELAY IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL
OCCASIONED BY DIFFICULIIES IS CONTACTING DIS,ARATE SOURCES

2. WHILE WE GREATLY APPRECIATE ARS'S FOLLOWUP AND E ARE
GRATIFIED THAT KAMWA RETURNED WITH A POSITIVE IMPRESSION OF
THE UNITED STATES AS A RESULT OF HIS IV VISIT, E ARE SOME-
WHAT UNSETLED BY HIS INTIMATIONS THAT THE DIFFICULTIES
WITH HIS PROGRAM WERENTIRELY THE FAULT OF THE PROGRAM
AGENCY AND THE ESCORT.

3. CU/AF IS WELL AWARE OF PROBLEMS IN USING FORMER FRENCH
NATIONALS AS ESCORTS FOR FRANCOPHONE AFRICANS. IN THIS
CASE, ESCORT HAD TRAVELED EXTENSIVELY THROUGHOUT THE U.S.
WITH SEVERAL PREVIOUS IV'S AND EVEN HAD PUBLISHED TO WORKS
ON AMERICAN FILM. MOREOVER, KAMWA IS NO STRANGER TO THE
U.S. BECAUSE OF EARLIER IV VISIT AND SEVERAL PRIVATE TRIPS

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(INCLUDING TO THIS YEAR). THUS, HIS KNOWLEDGE OF THE

U.S. AND HIS ACCEPTABLE ENGLISH SHOULD HAVE ENABLED

HIM TO ASK FOR ANYTHING THAT WAS MISSING, OR FIND IT
HIMSELF.

4. IT APPEARS THAT THE BASIS FOR MOST OF KAMWA'S PROGRAM
DIFFICULTIES STEM FROM FACT THAT HIS ACTUAL OBJECTIVES
WERE ONLY MARGINALLY, IF AT ALL, COMPATIBLE WITH THE
OBJECTIVES OF THE IV PROGRAM. IN SPITE OF THE MANY
EXCELLENT SUGGESTIONS CABLED IN ADVANCE, IT WAS ALL TOO
EVIDENT AT ITINERARY PLANNING SESSION THAT HIS ONLY TRUE
GOAL WAS TO FLOG "POUSSE-POUSSE" TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

5. ALTHOUGH PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS INCLUDED KAMWA'S DESIRE
TO "MAKE CONTACT WITH PROFESSIONAL COUNTERPARTS IN AMERICA
HE WAS PATENTLY UNINTERESTED IN MEETING FILMMAKERS WHO
COULD NOT PURCHASE "POUSSE-POUSSE." THE ONLY AUDIENCES
HE WANTED WERE FILM DISTRIBUTORS, AND HE WAS VISIBLY
DISSATISFIED, FOR EXAMPLE, WITH THE AUDIENCE AT THE AMERICA
FILM INSTITUTE SHOWING; DISTRIBUTORS WERE INVITED, BUT ONLY
STUDENTS SHOWED-UP. HAD WE KNOWN IN ADVANCE ABOUT
PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE OF DISTRIBUTION GOAL, AAI MIGHT HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO PLACE NECESSARY ADVERTISEMENTS IN TRADE
JOURNALS TO ATTRACT DISTRIBUTORS.

6. SEVERAL CHANGES IN KAMWA'S ETA MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR
AAI TO CONFIRM PROGRAM WITH LOCAL SPONSORS UNTIL HE WAS
ACTUALLY ON HAND. THEREFORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT AT
BEGINNING OF VISIT SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS WERE NEWLY MADE.
WASHINGTON PROGRAM WAS HAMPERED BY ARRIVAL BEFORE THREE-
DAY WEEKEND. HOWEVER, KAMWA DID NOT INDICATE ANY INTEREST
IN THE SEVERAL CULTURAL SUGGESTIONS WHICH AAI DID MAKE,
AND AT ANY RATE COULD NOT VISIT WOLF TRAP BECAUSE IT
OPENED FIVE DAYS AFTER HE DEPARTED D.C. AAI STATES THAT
EARNEST EFFORTS WERE MADE TO CONTACT EACH INDIVIDUAL
SUGGESTED. IN CHICAGO, FOR EXAMPLE, FILMS, INC. DID NOT
FOLLOW-UP INTEREST WHICH AAI HAD BEEN ABLE TO GENERATE
INITIALLY WHILE MADSEN DEPARTED SAN DIEGO SAME DAY KAMWA
ARRIVED IN L.A. MANY OTHERS WERE ALSO UNAVAILABLE AT
TIME, OR COULD NOT EVEN BE REACHED. GRANTEE CANCELLED
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SEVERAL APPOINTMENTS WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN PROFESSIONALLY
OR CULTURALLY VALUABLE, INCLUDING HIS ENTIRE PHILADELPHIA
PROGRAM WITH OLIVER FRANKLIN, LEADING BLACK FILM AUTHORITY

7. INASMUCH AS NEITHER KAMWA'S NOR CU/AF'S OBJECTIVES
WERE SATISFIED, IT MIGHT HAVE MADE MORE SENSE TO OFFER
FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE TO KAMWA DURING ONE OF HIS
PRIVATE VISITS. KISSINGER

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